09/762778 ec'd PCT/PTO 1 3 FEB 2001

PATENT APPLICATION/PCT Attorney Docket No. 702-010062

MINERAL WOOL PLANT SUBSTRATE 9/3/6/

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Anton BLAAKMEER

Paul J. L. H. BOUWENS

International Application

No. PCT/EP99/05759

International Filing Date

6 August 1999

Priority Dates Claimed

14 August 1998

Serial No. Not Yet Assigned

Filed Concurrently Herewith

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

February 13, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified patent application

as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title, insert the following headings:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1.

Field of the Invention --.